

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, 27-29, and 31-40 were previously pending in the application. Claims 3, 15, and 24 are canceled; claims 1 and 12 are amended; and new claims 41-46 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 1, 4-13, 16-23, 25, 27-29, and 31-46 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claims 22, 23, 25, 27-29, and 31-40 are allowed. In paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 11-13, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Duveneck. In paragraph 4, the Examiner objected to claims 3-10 and 15-21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all now-pending claims are allowable over Duveneck.

Amended claim 1 is equivalent to previously presented claim 3 (now canceled) rewritten in independent form. Since claim 3 was indicated as allowable, the Applicant submits that amended claim 1 is allowable. Since claims 4-11 depend variously from claim 1, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

Amended claim 12 is equivalent to previously presented claim 15 (now canceled) rewritten in independent form. Since claim 15 was indicated as allowable, the Applicant submits that amended claim 12 is allowable. Since claims 13 and 16-21 depend variously from claim 12, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

Support for new claims 41-46 can be found in, e.g., previously pending claims 8-10 and 19-21, respectively.

New claim 41 is equivalent to previously presented claim 8 rewritten in independent form. Since claim 8 was indicated as allowable, the Applicant submits that new claim 41 is allowable. Since claims 42 and 43 depend variously from claim 41, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

New claim 44 is equivalent to previously presented claim 19 rewritten in independent form. Since claim 19 was indicated as allowable, the Applicant submits that new claim 44 is allowable. Since claims 45 and 46 depend variously from claim 44, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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